

## **January 2018 – Winter Campaign 40: Meeting on January 02, 2018**

### **From the Brigade Commander: Ed Root**

Happy New Year! Welcome to 2018 and our continuing study of American history! We always find something new and fascinating from our monthly speakers as well as from the never ending release of books that break unknown ground and discover treasures.

A picture is worth a thousand words; certainly a truism for all those who attended our December gathering with Tim Smith. History does come alive when we view the scenes of that famous field at Gettysburg through the eyes of men like Gardner and Tipton. Thanks Tim for an excellent program.

We were pleased to see eight students from Bob McHugh's Saucon Valley High School United States History Advanced Placement class at our December meeting. These are exceptional young people who also participate in our annual conservation project at Gettysburg. We salute the next generation of folks who study our nation's history and help preserve her historic sites and collections!

Congratulations to Jeff Gates for winning our December 40th Anniversary prize (generously organized by Kay Bagenstose) and to Terri Monroe for coming away with our December Preservation raffle print which was donated by Barry Arnold. Keep buying those tickets for our June raffle folks. We all win when we donate to historic preservation.

Shame on you if you have not stopped by to see Jeff Gates and reenlisted for this our 40th year. Your membership is important and we do appreciate your support.

Don't forget to frequently check our website. There is always something informative and interesting.

<http://www.cwrteasternpa.org/> Paul Bartlett does a great job keeping things fresh.

Signup sheets will be at the January meeting for our Saturday, April 21st Brush Cutting adventure at Gettysburg's Henry Spangler Farm.

A hearty "Thank You" to all those who responded to our Annual Appeal. Thus far we have received donations totaling nearly \$500 from ten members. This support over and above your dues will help us to continue to provide the excellent programs and meetings you have come to expect and appreciate without raising dues or dinner fees. If you are of a mind, it is not too late to make an offering to the Cause!

See you on January 2 when we welcome in the New Year with Mike Jesberger who will speak about the Civil War Home Front, a little discussed, but very important facet of the "Late Unpleasantness."

Ed Root [sartilly@hotmail.com](mailto:sartilly@hotmail.com) 610-417-6673

### **Our January 02, 2018 Speaker, Mike Jesberger**

Mr. Jesberger is an independent military historian who specializes in the American Revolution and Civil War time periods. He is renowned for his depth and breadth of knowledge, as well as his engaging and passionate presentation style, whether providing formal lectures, living history presentations or tours of historic sites in the Tri-state area.

A member of numerous history based organizations and active in the reenactment community, he participates in numerous battle reenactments, living history programs and ceremonies to honor our first and current veterans. A lifelong resident of the Philadelphia region, Mr. Jesberger is a native of Northeast Philadelphia and has relocated to Bucks and Montgomery County, PA and currently resides in Lansdale, PA with his wife, Amy, Son, Erik and two daughters, Erin and Emma.



### **About Mike's Topic, The Civil War on the Homefront**

Join re-enactor and historian Mike Jesberger for a discussion of what it was like for civilians during the American Civil War on the home front and the places in our region that made significant contributions to the war effort.

The home front and the battlefield were intimately connected during the Civil War. North and South families sent loved ones off to fight. While sons, fathers, husbands and brothers were gone, family members waited anxiously for word of their whereabouts and safety. However, during the war, women for the first time in American history turned their attention to the outside world and made significant contributions to the war effort.

### ***Civil War New Year's Day Illustration: Harper's Weekly, January 2, 1864***

<http://www.sonofthesouth.net/leefoundation/civil-war/1864/january/new-years-day.htm>

Harper's Weekly was published during the Civil War to keep the country informed on the critical events of the War. It contained fascinating first person reports of the battles and stunning illustrations drawn by eye-witnesses to the battles. Today, these newspapers serve as an incredible resource for those interested in this period of history.

You are viewing an original 1864 illustration of New Year's Day by Thomas Nast. The picture compares and contrasts the state of affairs in the North and the South during the Civil War year of 1864. The left of the pictures presents scenes of happiness and joy in the North. Union Soldiers are pictures on Furlough, celebrating the New Year with their family. A small inset image shows former slaves celebrating their recent emancipation. Children are seen happy and playing. A picture of a union soldier shows him to be well fed, clothed and equipped.

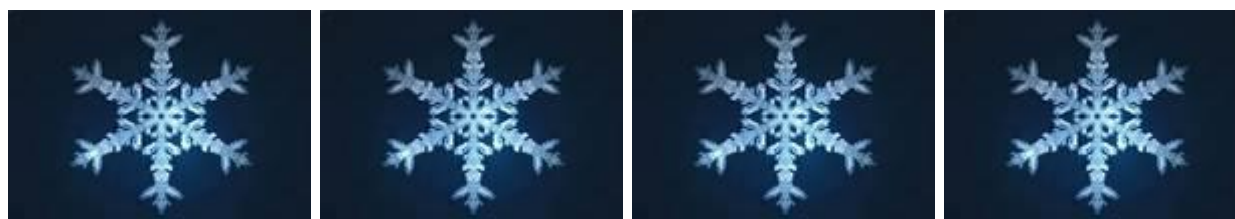


In contrast, the images on the right show the sad state of affairs in the South at this time. A woman and several children are shown weeping and grieving over a fresh grave . . . presumably that of the woman's husband, and the father of the children. A rebel soldier is seen in a tattered uniform, unable to protect himself from the bitter cold.

The upper inset image implies a spiritual component to the Civil War, with scenes of heavenly and demonic beings pitted against one another.

With the 1864 presidential campaign about to get underway, and with the Democratic Party arguing strongly for Compromise with the South, Thomas Nast used this illustration to remind people of what had been accomplished, and how victory was close at hand, if the country would stay the course.

## Operation Snowflake



*For weather related postponements/cancellations, please visit the CWRT website - [www.cwrteasternpa.org](http://www.cwrteasternpa.org) - where any meeting change information will be posted. If you still have doubts, please call Ed Root at 610-417-6673.*

## In Memoriam



**Edward H. Bonekemper, III**

It takes many hands to keep a Civil War round table like ours afloat for 40 years. Certainly those in leadership positions on the Board of Directors, hotel managers and administrators, donors, volunteers at special events, and especially the members themselves all contribute to the month to month operation of our fine organization. There is one other group that we all welcome but should not forget. The speakers: those researchers, authors, historians, park rangers, and living history personalities that we all come out to see at every dinner meeting. They share their passion, expertise, and sometimes life's work with us and drive one of our core principles as a round table: education. We lost a good one in December. We were saddened to hear of the passing of one of our regulars, Edward H. Bonekemper, III. Ed earned a B.A., cum laude, in American history from Muhlenberg College, an M.A. in American history from Old Dominion University, and a J.D. from Yale Law School. He served as a federal government attorney for 34 years. Bonekemper was the author of numerous Civil War books, book review editor of the *Civil War News* and former adjunct military history lecturer at Muhlenberg College. Ed spoke to our round table in 2010 on the "Six Turning Points of the American Civil War" and more recently in February, 2016 on his book *The Myth of the Lost Cause*. Ed was scheduled to visit us again in March, 2018 about his recent work, the "Ten Biggest Blunders of the Civil War." We mourn his loss and will miss his contributions to the study of Civil War history. The round table will make a donation to the Civil War Trust in his name. During this holiday season, as so many of us reflect on our blessings, let us remember Ed and extend our sympathies to his wife Susan.

## As a Follow Up to Our Field Trip to Neill Avenue in Gettysburg in October 2017

*The CWRT of Eastern PA visited Neill Avenue on October 21, 2017 and consequently, forwarded a check for \$150.00 to the Adams County Land Conservancy. Ed Root then received a letter of appreciation in response to our efforts, Ed has requested that the letter of appreciation be included in the newsletter for your perusal. This letter is presented on the following page.*

*Thank you for your support!*



**LAND**  
**CONSERVANCY**  
OF ADAMS COUNTY

*...preserving the rural lands and character of Adams County*

P.O. Box 4584  
670 Old Harrisburg Road  
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania 17325  
717.334.2828  
lcac@adamscounty.us  
www.LCACnet.org

December 7, 2017

Edwin Root, President  
Civil War Roundtable of Eastern PA

Dear Mr. Root,

I'm writing to thank you for your donation of \$150.00 to the Land Conservancy for Dean's Neill Avenue tour and for your donation to Dean for \$170.00 for the same tour, which he signed over to us. **It's not every day that a contribution to a community organization can have an impact that lasts forever**—but your investment in the mission of the Land Conservancy helps ensure that Adams County's beautiful and valuable rural lands will remain rural, *in perpetuity*.

**That's because support from partners like you plays a vital role in every acre we preserve here. Here's why:**

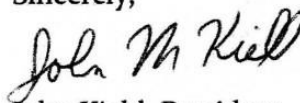
- While grant funds are available to compensate landowners for limiting development rights on their land through the placement of conservation easements, these grants typically require *local matching funds of up to half the grant amount*.
- Contributions from members like you not only provide a significant portion of those matching funds—they also help cover the substantial costs of *writing, monitoring, and enforcing the easements we hold*.

**Simply put: your support is vital to preserving Adams County's beautiful rural lands. Thank you!**

**As you know, earlier this year we completed our 150<sup>th</sup> easement, bringing our total preserved acreage to 10,150.** As I write this letter, Land Conservation Coordinator Sarah Kipp and our Conservation Committee are hard at work on an ambitious list of projects we hope to complete this year. Depending on the availability of local matching funds, we could see more than 500 acres preserved on our current list of projects alone!

**Please know that your gift has made a significant—and enduring—difference in this work of preserving Adams County's rural lands, forever.**

Sincerely,

  
John Kiehl, President

Your gift, given on 11/7/2017, is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. No goods or services were provided by the Land Conservancy in return for this contribution.





## Happy Birthday to Us; Happy Birthday to Us

Don't forget in honor of our fortieth birthdate, Kay Bagenstose is making the festivities even grander with special prizes and treats at every meeting. Below is a picture of our December winner. Congratulations Jeff Gate's name was drawn and he received a special gift- a book. And remember, all you need to do is attend the meeting for your chance to win!



## December Preservation Raffle Prize

Framed Print of Chamberlin at Little Round Top (7/2/1863) - Framed and Donated by Barry Arnold  
One of our special anniversary prizes. This beauty was won by Terri Lynn Monroe



## Thanks to Tim Smith for his Informative Talk on Civil War Photography



Bob McHugh presents a \$50.00 check to for the Civil War Trust for Tim's December presentation.

## Do You KNOW THE CIVIL WAR?

**Taken from The Civil War Quiz and Fact Book by Rod Gragg**

Answers on Page 8

1. Where was the largest Union Prison and where was it located?  
A) Camp Douglas, Chicago, IL      B) Camp Chase, Columbus, Ohio      C) Elmira Prison, Elmira, NY  
D) Fort Warren, Boston, MA
2. What was Tanglefoot or Oil of Gladness?  
A) Quinine      B) Alcohol      C) Coca Cola      D) Condensed milk
3. What civilian was killed at the Henry House during the Battle of First Manassas?  
A) Barbara Fritchie      B) Ginnie Wade      C) Mrs. Judith Henry      D) John Brown
4. What Civil War diplomat represented the Union in Great Britain and was instrumental in preventing Great Britain's support for the Confederacy?  
A) William Henry Seward      B) Charles Francis Adams      C) James Mason      D) John Slidell

## All Members and guests of the Lehigh Brigade are ordered to

Holiday Inn Conference Center Lehigh Valley in Breinigsville

7736 Adrienne Drive Breinigsville, PA 18031      Phone 610-391-1000

**The deadline for accepting dinner reservations is the last Thursday, before the monthly meeting held on the first Tuesday of the month unless otherwise noted. Please note the deadline for making dinner reservations for the January 02, 2018 meeting is Thursday, December 28, 2017.**

**For dinner reservations and/or information: Contact any of the following:**

**James Duffy – 610-253- 4549** [duffysocwk@aol.com](mailto:duffysocwk@aol.com)

**Carol Detweiler 215-234- 4884** [cdetweiler01@comcast.net](mailto:cdetweiler01@comcast.net)

**Ed Oechsle – 610-882-9228** [ehoechsle@ptd.net](mailto:ehoechsle@ptd.net)

**Please Remember To Visit Our Website:** Our website is a treasure trove of up to date information about not only our Round Table and it' activities, but links to events of interest, research aids and other organizations of merit. Website: <http://www.cwrteasternpa.org/>

## **December Attendance Statistics by James Duffy**

Our third meeting back and we had 58 attendees. That included 38 for dinner and 20 walk-ins. We were glad to see all of you and would love to have you back in December.

## **ANSWERS FOR DO YOUR KNOW THE CIVIL WAR?**

**Quiz on page 7**

1.) A                      2.) B                      3.) C                      4.) B

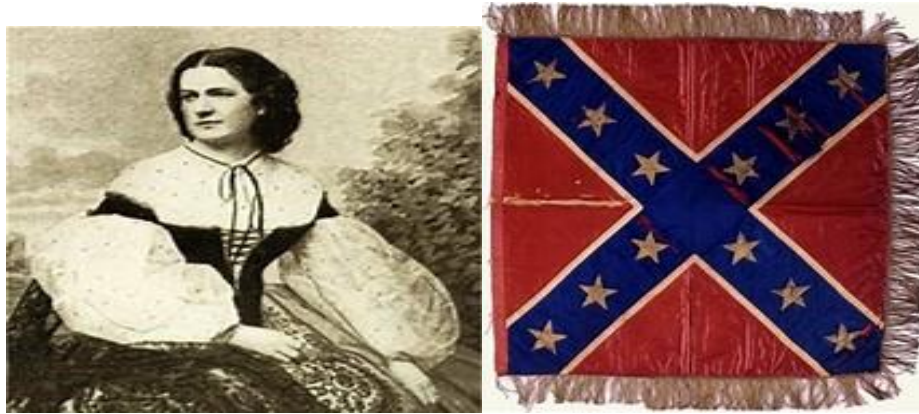
## **December 2017 Book Raffle Winners**



Winners from L to R: Chuck Cannon, Glenn Baumer, Gary Schnell, Joe Riggs, Jeff Gates, and Gerry Sherwin



## A Woman's Place is in the War: Hetty Cary from Wikipedia



**Hetty Carr Cary** (May 15, 1836 – September 27, 1892) was the wife of CSA General John Pegram and, later, of pioneer physiologist H. Newell Martin. She is best remembered for making the first three battle flags of the Confederacy (along with her sister and cousin). Hetty was related to two of Virginia's most influential families, the Jeffersons (through her mother's family) and the Randolphs (through her paternal grandmother, Virginia Randolph Cary). She was also a lineal descendant of Pocahontas. Henry Kyd Douglas, in *I Rode With Stonewall*, described Hetty as "the most beautiful woman of her day and generation" and "the handsomest woman in the Southland -- with her classic face, her pure complexion, her auburn hair. Her perfect figure and her carriage, altogether the most beautiful woman I ever saw in any land."

### Civil War

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Hetty was wholeheartedly a supporter of the South, even when in the North and among Union soldiers. On one occasion, she waved a smuggled Confederate flag from a second-story window as Federal troops marched through Baltimore. An officer of the passing regiment allegedly pointed Hetty out to his colonel, asking, "Shall I have her arrested?" The colonel looked at her and replied: "No, she is beautiful enough to do as she pleases."

### Smuggling

Hetty and her sister Jennie smuggled drugs and clothing across the Potomac through the Union blockade for Confederate troops. They were forced to leave Baltimore after federal authorities discovered her Southern sympathies. They escaped to Richmond, where they then lived with their cousin Constance Cary and her mother, who served as the girls' chaperone. The three young ladies became known as the Cary Invincibles.

### Making of the Confederate Battle Flag

Due to confusion troops during the First Battle of Bull Run due to the similar design and color of the Confederate flag, the Stars and Bars, and the Union flag, the Stars and Stripes, Confederate General P. G. T. among the Beauregard recommended that the Confederate flag be changed. Constance Cary wrote:

During the autumn of '61, to my cousins, Hetty and Jennie, and to me was entrusted the making of the first three battle flags of the Confederacy. They were jaunty squares of scarlet crossed with dark blue edged in white, the cross bearing stars to indicate the number of the seceded states. We set our best stitches upon them, edged with gold fringed, and, when they were finished, dispatched one to General Joseph Johnston, another to General Pierre Beauregard, and the last to General Earl Van Dorn. The banners were made from red silk for the fields and blue silk for the crosses.

The resulting flag, commonly called the Southern Cross, served as the principal battle flag of the cavalry, infantry, and artillery units in the Army of Northern Virginia from November 1861 until the surrender at Appomattox Court House in April 1865.

## **Marriage to General John Pegram**

When 26, Hetty met 32 year-old John Pegram at a party at his mother's home, and became engaged in 1862.

Their wedding date was finally set due to two events. At the end of 1864, John's division was sent to the Confederate entrenchments around Petersburg, Virginia. Near that same time, Hetty's mother, Mrs. Wilson Miles Cary of Baltimore, obtained a pass to go to Richmond to visit her two daughters. Due to her mother's visit, John urged Hetty not to delay their marriage any longer, and wedding preparations quickly began.

The wedding occurred January 19, 1865. It was a major social occasion, as it was the union of one of the most beautiful women in the South to one of Virginia's most eligible bachelors. The elite of Confederate society, including President Jefferson Davis and his wife Varina, attended the wedding in the historic St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

After the wedding, both John and Hetty traveled to a farmhouse near Petersburg, which was serving as General Pegram's headquarters. On February 6, only 18 days after their wedding, John was killed by a Minié ball leading a charge at the Battle of Hatcher's Run.

Hetty returned to Richmond on the train carrying her husband's body. Exactly three weeks after their wedding day, his coffin was taken to St. Paul's, the same church where the couple had been recently married. Reverend Minnigerode, the pastor at their wedding, also conducted the funeral service. On the day that her husband was killed, General Robert E. Lee was given command of all the armies of the Confederacy. He wrote the following sympathetic letter to Hetty:

“ I cannot find words to express my deep sympathy in your affliction, my sorrow at your loss. God alone can give you strength to bear the blow he has sent. It has been death by his hand I know it was sent in mercy. As dear as your husband was to you, as necessary apparently to his Country and as important to its cause, I feel assured it was best for him to go at the moment he did. His purity of character, his services to the Country and his devotion to his God, prepared him for his end and rest he now enjoys. We are left to grieve at his departure, cherish his memory and prepare to follow. May God give us his Grace, that through the blessed Son, we may be ready to obey his gracious Summons.

Truly and affectionately your friend  
R E Lee  
Petersburg 11 Feb '65

Only two months after her husband lost his life, her late husband's brother, Colonel William Pegram, was killed, dying during the fight at Five Forks in the Confederate retreat from Petersburg.

During a grieving period, Hetty stayed with her mother-in-law. Following that, Hetty and her mother returned to their home in Baltimore, where she taught at the Southern Home School for several years.

## **Remarriage**

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Later, while traveling abroad in Europe, Hetty met professor Henry Newell Martin, a pioneer physiologist and professor at Johns Hopkins University. They were married in 1879. Hetty died at her home in Baltimore on September 27, 1892. She was buried there at St. Thomas' Churchyard.

# **Campaign Print Raffle Prizes for 2017-2018 Campaign Season**

## **June Preservation Raffle Prizes**

**Grand Prize-** “The Grim Harvest of War” Jackson and the Valley campaign by Bradley Schmehl



**Prize 2-** Photographs of Union and Confederate Officers in the Civil War in America.  
Published by the Civil War Library and Museum, 1996

**Prize 3-** A Great Civil War by Russell Weigley, signed.

**Prize 4-** The Gleam of Bayonets by Jim Murfin, signed

**Prize 5-** Time detailed maps of the Chancellorsville Campaign, done by the National Park Service

**Prize 6]-**The South to Posterity by Douglas Southall Freeman

**REMEMBER, WHEN YOU SUPPORT PRESERVATION, WE ARE ALL WINNERS!!!**

## **REENLISTMENT REPORT**

### **Jeff Gates**

It is re-enlistment time for the 2017-2018 campaign. Again, our numbers have decreased over the past year and the Roundtable can use your help in acquiring some new recruits. If you know of anyone who has an interest in the Civil War, please pass his or her name and address along to me. I will send them a few complimentary newsletters and an introductory letter to the Round Table. Better yet, bring them to a dinner meeting. The dues are \$25.00 for individuals, \$10.00 for full-time students. To avoid standing in line at the meeting, please fill out the form below and mail it with your check payable to CWRT of Eastern PA, Inc. Thanks for your support. Jeff Gates (610) 966-5773 or jefgates@ptd.net

## CWRT of Eastern PA ---REENLISTMENT FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you been a member? \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear of this organization?

\_\_\_\_\_

What is your occupation/profession?

\_\_\_\_\_

Reenactor?\_\_\_ Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Please give name and unit of ancestor who fought in the Civil War \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

My major interest is:

\_\_\_\_\_

Would you be willing to speak to groups on some aspect of the Civil War?

Would you be interested in participating in round table activities? \_\_\_\_\_(yes or no) Here are just a few of the ways you

Could get involved: \_\_\_public functions \_\_\_political action \_\_\_preservation \_\_\_living history \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_(Please specify)

**Dues (Please make checks payable to CWRT of Eastern PA, Inc.)**

\_\_\_Individual (\$25.00) \_\_\_Full-Time Student (\$10.00)\_\_\_Tax Deductible Donation

**Please fill out the Enlistment Form above for our next Campaign and mail FIRST CLASS to CWRT of Eastern PA, Inc., P.O. Box 333 ALLENTOWN, PA 18105**

**Dues are payable now!**